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October 4, 2016

## Diaz v. Artus et al., No. 1:13-cv-00021-RJA-JJM (W.D.N.Y.)

Dear Judge McCarthy:

We write on behalf of Plaintiff Walter Diaz in connection with the Court's Order of September 30, 2016 (Dkt No. 162), concerning defense counsel's Motion to Withdraw (Dkt. No. 155). In that order, the Court ruled that "neither plaintiff nor defendants are entitled to the *in camera* Confidential Declarations of Christopher Boyd", which set forth the basis for the Motion to Withdraw.

In light of this decision, and as discussed in Plaintiff's September 22, 2016 letter to the Court, Plaintiff has no information on the facts and reasons underlying defense counsel's decision to withdraw. Plaintiff has sought such information repeatedly, to no effect. Specifically, Plaintiff has asked that at the very least, defense counsel be ordered to identify documents already produced—about which there can be no claim of confidentiality—that defense counsel has represented support his motion. To date, this request was not granted, nor was the reason for its denial (assuming it was denied, as appears to be the case) explained to Plaintiff.

Under these circumstances, Plaintiff lacks the ability to assess defense counsel's motion or exercise his right to oppose that motion effectively, should he deem such opposition appropriate. Having no basis on which to object or assent to defense counsel's Motion to Withdraw, Plaintiff will not file an objection on October 10, as contemplated by the Court's September 30, 2016 Order. Plaintiff simply notes his deep concern as to the delay that withdrawal might cause to his case.

As Plaintiff is eager to proceed expeditiously to trial, we ask that the Court require Defendants to retain new counsel promptly and that the Court set a firm date for a status conference to set a new Case Management Order as soon as practical.

We appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully

/s/ Greg C. Cheyne Greg C. Cheyne

Hon. Jeremiah J. McCarthy
United States Magistrate Judge
Western District of New York
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VIA E-MAIL

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